

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 remain in this application. Claims 1, 2, and 6 have been amended to more clearly define the invention. Support for the recital of "general straight sided cylinders" in claims 1 and 6 is found in the present specification, for example, at p. 2, Ln. 16.

The typographical errors that were objected to, as well as some that were discovered upon review of the claims, have been corrected.

The rejection of claims 6 and 7 as anticipated by Han '310 is respectfully traversed. Claim 6 now recites, "said mating walls being generally straight sided cylinders throughout their lengths, said socket and post members being positioned to retainingly interengage one another...said socket member being adapted to receiving said post member in a snap fit". For a more detailed description of the advantages of having straight sided cylindrical walls and a snap fit attention is respectfully invited to the paragraph bridging pages 8, 9 and 10, and the first full paragraph on page 10 of the present specification. Han does not disclose or suggest straight sided cylindrical walls. In the summary of the invention (Col. 1, Lns. 39-59) it is made clear that there is some engagement mechanism involved in Han's cap and post. Straight sided cylindrical walls would be contrary to Han's express teachings. There is no anticipation.

The rejection of claims 1-5, 8 and 9 as unpatentable over Han is respectfully traversed. Han's binder spines are not disclosed or suggested to be a system composed

of progressively different sizes. See claims 1, 2, 4, and 5. There is nothing in Han to suggest such a system. It is respectfully submitted that a system with progressively different sizes is not within the skill of a routineer in the art. As noted above, Han does not disclose or suggest straight sided cylindrical walls. Such a modification would be inimical to Han's teaching that "the buttons are designed to be opened only in a designated proper direction or site", Col. 1, Lns. 45-47. Further, Han does not teach or suggest a system of spines where each spine has a plurality of post and socket members thereon. Claims 3 and 7 recite that each binder spine includes at least three socket and post members.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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